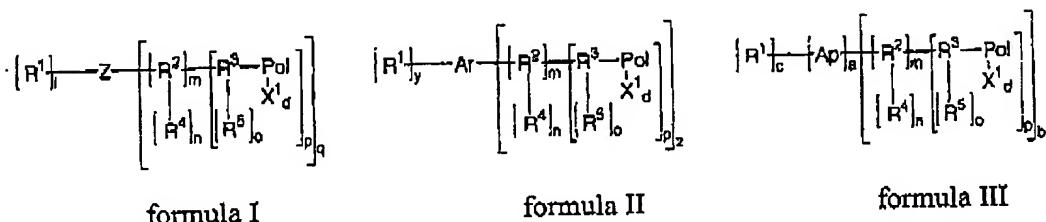


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AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Original) A polymer of the formula I, II or III:



in which

Pol is a polymer based on a polyvinyl alcohol, and

Z is a central atom and is an atom from groups 13 to 16 of the Periodic Table of the Elements, and

X¹ is identical or different at each occurrence and is a halogen atom, and

R¹ is identical or different and is hydrogen or a C₁-C₂₀ group, and

R² is identical or different and is a bridging C₁-C₂₀ group between the central atom Z and the initiating unit [R³-X¹] or silicon or oxygen, and

R³ is identical or different and is carbon or silicon, and

R⁴ is identical or different and is a hydrogen atom or a C₁-C₂₀ group, and

R⁵ is identical or different and is hydrogen or a C₁-C₂₀ group,

l is a whole natural number and is zero, 1, 2 or 3, and

m is identical or different at each occurrence and is a whole natural number and is zero, 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5, and

n is identical or different at each occurrence and is a whole natural number and is zero, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19 or 20, and

is identical or different at each occurrence and is 1 or 2, and

p is identical or different at each occurrence and is a whole natural number and is 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5, and

q is a whole natural number and is 2, 3 or 4, and

Ar is an aromatic parent structure having at least four carbon atoms, in which one or more carbons may have been replaced by boron, nitrogen or phosphorus, with

preferred aromatic or heteroaromatic parent structures deriving from benzene, biphenyl, naphthalene, anthracene, phenanthrene, triphenylene, quinoline, pyridine, bipyridine, pyridazine, pyrimidine, pyrazine, triazine, benzopyrrole, benzotriazole, benzopyridine, benzopyrazidine, benzopyrimidine, benzopyrazine, benzotriazine, indolizine, quinolizine, carbazole, acridine, phenazine, benzoquinoline, phenoxazine, which where appropriate may also be substituted, and

y is a whole natural number and is zero, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19 or 20, and

z is a whole natural number and is 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 or 10,

Ap is a cyclic nonaromatic parent structure which has at least three carbon atoms and may also contain heteroatoms from the group of nitrogen, boron, phosphorus, oxygen or sulfur, and

a is a whole natural number and is zero, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19 or 20, and

b is a whole natural number and is 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 or 10, and

c is a whole natural number and is zero, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19 or 20, and

d can be identical or different and is zero or one.

2. (Original) The polymer of claim 1, characterized in that Pol is a copolymer based on polyvinyl alcohol.
3. (Original) The polymer of claim 1, characterized in that Pol is a polyvinyl alcohol-polyvinyl acetate copolymer, polyvinyl alcohol-polyethylene copolymer, polyvinyl alcohol-polyvinyl chloride copolymer or polyvinyl alcohol-polymethyl acrylate copolymer or mixture thereof.
4. (Original) The polymer of claim 1, characterized in that Z is a central atom selected from the group of carbon, silicon, nitrogen, phosphorus, oxygen and/or sulfur.

5. (Original) The polymer of claim 1, characterized in that X¹ is identical or different at each occurrence and is fluorine, chlorine, bromine or iodine.
6. (Original) The polymer of claim 1, characterized in that Ar is benzene, biphenyl, naphthalene, anthracene, phenanthrene, triphenylene, quinoline, pyridine, bipyridine, pyridazine, pyrimidine, pyrazine, triazine, benzopyrrole, benzotriazole, benzopyridine, benzopyrazidine, benzopyrimidine, benzopyrazine, benzotriazine, indolizine, quinolizine, carbazole, acridine, phenazine, benzoquinoline, phenoxyazine, which if desired may also be substituted.
7. (Original) The polymer of claim 1, characterized in that Ap is cyclopropyl, cyclobutyl, cyclopentyl, cyclohexyl, cycloheptyl, cyclooctyl or cyclononyl, aziridine, azetidine, pyrrolidine, piperidine, azepane, azocane, 1,3,5-triazinane, 1,3,5-trioxane, oxetane, furan, dihydrofuran, tetrahydrofuran, pyran, dihydropyran, tetrahydropyran, oxepane, oxocane, alpha-glucose and/or beta-glucose.
8. (Currently amended) A process for preparing a polyvinyl acetal or polyvinyl acetal copolymer, characterized in that at least one polymer of claim 1~~claims 1 to 7~~ is used.
9. (Currently amended) A polyvinyl acetal or polyvinyl acetal copolymer obtainable by reacting at least one polymer of ~~claims 1 to 7~~claim 1.
10. cancelled
11. (Original) The use of the polymer of claim 9 as a film for producing laminated glass sheets, as a base material for coatings, as a component of adhesion primers, as a textile coating, as a component for adhesives or as a removable coating.

12. (New) The polymer of claim 3, wherein

Z is a central atom selected from the group of carbon, silicon, nitrogen, phosphorus, oxygen and/or sulfur,
 X^1 is identical or different at each occurrence and is fluorine, chlorine, bromine or iodine,
Ar is benzene, biphenyl, naphthalene, anthracene, phenanthrene, triphenylene, quinoline, pyridine, bipyridine, pyridazine, pyrimidine, pyrazine, triazine, benzopyrrole, benzotriazole, benzopyridine, benzopyrazidine, benzopyrimidine, benzopyrazine, benzotriazine, indolizine, quinolizine, carbazole, acridine, phenazine, benzoquinoline, phenoxazine, which if desired may also be substituted,
Ap is cyclopropyl, cyclobutyl, cyclopentyl, cyclohexyl, cycloheptyl, cyclooctyl or cyclononyl, aziridine, azetidine, pyrrolidine, piperidine, azepane, azocane, 1,3,5-triazinane, 1,3,5-trioxane, oxetane, furan, dihydrofuran, tetrahydrofuran, pyran, dihydropyran, tetrahydropyran, oxepane, oxocane, alpha-glucose and/or beta-glucose.

13. (New) A protective colloid, emulsifier, binder, for protective skins and adhesives, textile finishes, sizes, metal-protection coatings, for preparing ointments and emulsions, water-soluble pouches and packaging films, oil-, grease-, and fuel-resistant films, hoses and seals, as an additive to shaving cream and to soaps, as a thickener in pharmaceutical and cosmetics products, as an artificial tear liquid, water-soluble fibers or sponges, films, a cement additive, hydrogels for water treatment, and as a polyvinyl alcohol that can be processed in the melt, or for preparing polyvinyl acetal or polyvinyl acetal copolymer which comprises the polymer of claim 7.